

updated 8:06 p.m. EDT, Thu October 25, 2007

EMAIL SAVE PRINT

U.S. details Quds Force's 'lethal support' to Taliban

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Treasury Department says Iranian force supplies small arms, RPGs, ammo
- U.S. also says Quds Force has given funding, weapons to Hezbollah
- Allegations used to justify designating Quds as a supporter of terrorism

Next Article in World »

READ

VIDEO

TEXT SIZE

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- The Quds Force, the elite unit of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, provides "lethal support" to the Sunni-dominated Taliban for use against U.S. and NATO forces, according to information in the new U.S. sanctions imposed on Iran.

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, announces the sanctions Thursday.

The Quds Force is the "Iranian regime's primary instrument for providing lethal support to the Taliban," and it "provides weapons and financial support to the Taliban to support anti-U.S. and

anti-coalition activity in Afghanistan," the Treasury Department alleged Thursday in announcing economic sanctions against the Quds Force and other Iranian military and financial entities.

Iran is a predominantly Shiite nation and is known to support Shiite fighters in Iraq, where Shiite and Sunni Muslims have been at odds in recent years, and in Lebanon.

In the past, the U.S. military has said the Quds Force also supports the Taliban, the Sunni movement that once controlled Afghanistan and still harbors the al Qaeda terror movement. The Treasury Department statement, however, laid out specific details of that alleged support to justify designating the Quds Force as a supporter of terrorism. Watch an announcement of the sanctions against Iran »

"Since at least 2006, Iran has arranged frequent shipments of small arms and associated ammunition, rocket propelled grenades, mortar rounds, 107 mm rockets, plastic explosives, and probably man-portable defense systems to the Taliban," the statement said.

Don't Miss

- U.S. slaps new sanctions on Iran
- Petraeus: Iran fuels fighting among Iraq militias
- Israel: Iran nukes are world issue
- Cheney: Iran will not get nuclear weapon

The Treasury statement also says the Quds Force "has had a long history" of backing Hezbollah's "military, paramilitary, and terrorist activities, providing it with guidance, funding, weapons, intelligence, and logistical support."

The Lebanese Shiite group runs training camps in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and "has reportedly trained" more than 3,000 of the group's fighters at Revolutionary Guard training facilities in Iran, the Treasury Department alleged.

The statement further alleges that the Quds Force provides roughly \$100 million to \$200 million in funding a year to Hezbollah and has helped the group rearm after the war in Lebanon with Israeli forces.

The Treasury Department says the Quds Force provides "material support" to two Palestinian groups -- Palestinian Islamic Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

ADVERTISEMENT

The Quds Force is one of five branches of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The others are Ground Forces, Air Force, Navy and Basij militia.

The Revolutionary Guard Corps "runs prisons, and has numerous economic interests involving defense production, construction, and the oil industry" and "has been outspoken about its willingness to proliferate ballistic missiles capable of carrying" weapons of mass destruction, the Treasury Department says.

E-mail to a friend

All About Iran • Iraq

EMAIL SAVE PRINT

Most Popular on CNN

STORIES

Most Viewed Most Emailed Top Searches

- 1 Dom DeLuise dies at 75
- 2 Missing woman spotted in Atlanta?
- 3 Lawsuit: Texas police rob drivers
- 4 Edwards opens up about affair
- 5 Craigslist under fire over sex ads
- 6 Schools told not to close for flu
- 7 UK woman to escape Laos execution
- 8 Look out for 5 new rental car fees
- 9 Afghan Taliban spokesman: We will win...
- 10 Newly-weds help on deforestation

more most popular »

VIDEOS

TOPICS

careerbuilder.com

Quick Job Search

keyword(s):

enter city:

State Job type

SEARCH

more options »

From the Blogs: Controversy, commentary, and debate

[Home](#) | [World](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Politics](#) | [Crime](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Health](#) | [Tech](#) | [Travel](#) | [Living](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Time.com](#)
[Work With Us](#) | [Tools & Widgets](#) | [Podcasts](#) | [Blogs](#) | [CNN Mobile](#) | [My Profile](#) | [E-mail Alerts](#) | [CNN Radio](#) | [CNN Shop](#) | [Site Map](#)

POWERED BY
Google

SEARCH

© 2009 Cable News Network. Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

[Terms of service](#) | [Privacy guidelines](#) | [Advertise with us](#) | [About us](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Help](#)

[CNN en Español](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Japanese](#) | [Korean](#) | [Turkish](#)

[International Edition](#) | [CNN TV](#) | [CNN International](#) | [HLN](#) | [Transcripts](#)